

Magnolia, Mass.

August 10th -

1907 -

Dear Miss Rawlins -

I am much
afraid that you will think I
never received your letter, or that I
neglected it in an inexcusable manner -
but I hope that you will forgive
me, when I explain matters -

Your letter came at a very busy
moment, just before Christmas; and
I knew a few days delay was
inevitable - Then, my sister was
quite seriously ill for some weeks.
from just a few days after Christmas
on into February - and she had not
long recovered, before she was ill again.
It was severe bronchitis, & I was
very anxious about her - The
friend who lives with us, now about
85 years old, had also an attack of
illness, & was in the house several
months - & so we had a long period

not pay you for eluding them. I wish I had been more successful.

Now I write to ask if you are coming to the Congress here in September? If so, do come, before it opens - & make me a visit at Magnolia - We are, alas! pretty quiet now; not like what it was, when you were here before! My only regret is, I cannot invite any one to my Boston home - for it is closed - & a care taker only, in it - & of course the maids, here with us - But during the few days of the Congress, I would introduce you at the Mayflower Club - so that you could take all your meals there - (I did not belong to it when you were here before) I have just made Miss Helen Sanford a temporary member - So come, if you feel at all disposed - & you will be received with open arms! You shall have a much better room than when you were here before - & and we

of illness and anxiety. Finally I had a
touch of grip myself.

I always find it very hard to get
back to a postponed duty, especially
connected with a letter - unless I do
things at once, I seem never to catch up
again. However, I did finally take
your list to W. B. Clarke's. (no relative
notwithstanding the name) the bookseller
with whom we always deal. I can
trust the judgment of Mr. Fager, the
member of the firm that I see when I
go there. He looked over the list
carefully; but he said that he could not
advise sending the books. Some of them
are often to be had in the same (old)
edition at the ^{shops for} second hand books; and
some have been reprinted.

I dare say that you have disposed
of them now, in some other way - but I
wondered you to know that I did, at last,
attend to the matter - Mr. Fager said
they could only offer us low a price
for all of them together, that it would

have another to be done now, - which we find a great
Convenience -

Yours Sincerely

William Freeman Clarke.

I have unluckily mislaid your letter - and after looking
for it everywhere, I am obliged to let this letter go, hoping
that the excellent management of the English Post-office may
cause it to reach you!